M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages____________

(2) Date of repair____________

(3) Initials of the Referencer____________

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 474, 475	2805	Press / Mis.
Dated	29.11	1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th November 1872.

No. 474. Read the following letter from Major R. F. OAKES, R.E., Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 16th November 1872, No. 273:—

I HAVE the honour to inform you that it had been my intention had I been posted in the re-organization of the Department Public Works to one of the Inspecting Engineerships to have requested that I might have been allowed to complete the examination of the Perryaur Project, on which I have been for some time engaged. Observing, however, from the special *Gazette* of the 13th November that I had not only been superseded by an officer who has been far my junior in the Department Public Works, but that I have been reduced to Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Grade, I have some diffidence in making the following proposal, as it is clear from my supersession and reduction that the Government have ceased to regard me with the confidence which they have hitherto reposed in me, and which induced them some sixteen months ago to offer me, and on my declining the offer to insist upon my acceptance of the post of Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation, a post, I may observe, of far greater importance and responsibility than that for which I am now apparently deemed ineligible.

2. I may observe that I was aware that Colonel Farewell had been recommended for the post of Inspecting Engineer, but I was led to believe that the only reason I was not proposed for the post was because it was deemed that my services would be more useful in the Irrigation Branch of the Department Public Works and that I should not be superseded, and I naturally supposed that my name would still have appeared in the list of Superintending Engineers above his instead of being placed below his, and in a lower grade, as I find it in the *Gazette* of the 13th instant; had I been aware of the supersession entailed by Colonel Farewell's appointment to the post of Inspecting Engineer, it is possible I should have overcome my reluctance to urge my own claims if only on the score of my position on the Departmental list, the more so as I am entirely unconscious of any act of mine which has caused me to incur the displeasure of Government, or to merit supersession.

3. To return however to the Perryaur Project, Lieutenant-Colonel Mullins has informed me that he will probably relieve me on the 26th instant, and as it is quite impossible for me to complete my report on the Perryaur Project by that date, my proposition (made entirely on public grounds) is that I should be placed on special duty till I have completed the examination of the Perryaur Project and submitted my report upon it.

4. I think I could complete the work by the end of December at the latest.

5. The state of the work is as follows:—All the works on the Hills have been examined, altered where necessary, and passed, and all calculations connected with them have been completed. All calculations connected with the works in the plains have been completed, or will be so in two or three days, but here it has been found necessary to recast some of the works and to make considerable alterations in others, hence fresh estimates have to be made and new plans drawn, these are in progress, so also are the tracings of the works which will number nearly 100. The estimates have been altered, but have to be copied where the alterations are extensive. The specifications have to be altered and some rewritten. Almost half my report is written, but in a fragmentary manner, as the work of examination

has been frequently interrupted by the current work of the office. As far as I can judge the work of examination, so far as it has gone, may be regarded as representing seven or eight hours of work daily for a period of two or two and a half months, or a money value of from 4,000 to 5,000 Rupees, this will be lost if the work is left incomplete.

6. The actual work I have to do myself could probably be completed in a fortnight if I could work without interruption, but the work to be done in the office in copying, etc., will take at least six weeks, and it would be well that, intimately acquainted with the work as I now am, I should examine the tracings of the plans, the estimates, etc., after they have been copied.

7. Lieutenant-Colonel Mullins would probably raise no objection to the work required of the office being undertaken by the members of his office establishment, but if the aid of an extra writer or draughtsman is required it would be true economy to employ extra hands.

8. I may observe that the work in the office of Chief Engineer for Irrigation is now very heavy, the division of the districts into circles and the preparation of Capital and Revenue Accounts will for some time occupy Lieutenant-Colonel Mullins, while the Rooshkoolia and Neerinjepett Projects await examination, so it would be well that he should be relieved of works which probably would represent three months of uninterrupted work, *i.e.*, if he went through all the calculations as I have done.

9. On the completion of the work I purpose to avail myself of two months' privilege leave to which I am entitled, and if Government do not wish me to undertake the completion of the project, I beg that privilege leave may be granted to me for two monthsfrom the date of my being relieved by Lieutenant-Colonel Mullins.

No. 475. ORDER THEREON, 29th November 1872, No. 2,805.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 36.

MAJOR OAKES will be considered as employed on special duty at Madras while engaged in completing his examination of the Perryaur Project. After which he will be permitted to avail himself of two months' privilege leave. His Excellency the Governor in Council has already marked his appreciation of Major Oakes' services in the Irrigation Department by promoting him to the rank of Superintending Engineer of the 1st grade, at a time when it had been determined, in compliance with the orders of the Government of India, to reduce the number in that grade from three to two, and when such promotion consequently involved the payment of a personal allowance to him after the 1st December. The grant of his request for privilege leave, just as the department has been re-organized, and when his service can ill be spared, will, His Excellency the Governor in Council trusts, be accepted by Major Oakes as an assurance that the Government fully appreciate the good services rendered by him.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To Major R. F. Oakes, R. E.
To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

No. 273.

Fort St George
16th November 1872

3W

From,

The Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To

The Secretary to Government D.P.W.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that it had been my intention had I been posted in the reorganization of the D P W to one of the Inspecting Engineerships to have requested that I might have been allowed to complete the examination of the Perryaur Project on which I have been for some time engaged. Observing however from the Special Gazette of the 13th November that I have not only been superseded by an officer who has been far my junior in the D P W but that I have been reduced to Superintending Engineer of the 2nd grade I have some diffidence in making the following proposal, as it is clear from my super-

session

sepsion and reduction that the Government have ceased to regard me with the confidence which they have hitherto reposed in me & which induced them some 16 months ago to offer me, & on my declining the offer, to insist upon my acceptance of the post of Acting chief Engineer for Irrigation a post, I may observe, of far greater importance & responsibility than that for which I am now apparently deemed ineligible:

2. I may observe that I was aware that Colonel Farewell had been recommended for the post of Inspecting Engineer but I was led to believe that the only reason I was not proposed for the post was because it was deemed that my services would be more useful in the Irrigation Branch of the D. W. P. & that I should not be superseded & I naturally supposed that my name would still have appeared in the list of Superintending Engineers above his, instead of being placed below his & in a lower grade as I find it in the gazette of the 13 Instant: had I been aware of the supersession entailed by Colonel Farewell's appointment to the post of Inspecting Engineer it is possible I should have

overcome

overcome my reluctance to urge my own claims if only on the score of my position on the Departmental list - the more so as I am entirely unconscious of any act of mine which has caused me to incur the displeasure of Government or to merit supersession

3 To return however to the Perryaur Project - Lt Colonel Mullins has informed me that he will probably relieve me on the 26 Instant & as it is quite impossible for me to complete my report on the Perryaur Project by that date, my proposition (made entirely on public grounds) is that I should be placed on special duty till I have completed the examination of the Perryaur Project & submitted my report upon it -

4 I think I could complete the work by the end of December at the latest -

5 The state of the work is as follows.
All the works on the Hills have been examined, altered where necessary, & passed & all calculations connected with them have been completed. All calculations connected with the works in the plains have been completed or will be so in two or three days, but here it has been found necessary to recast some of the works & to make considerable alterations in others

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hence fresh estimates have to be made & new plans drawn, these are in progress so also are the tracings of the works which will number nearly 100 - The estimates have been altered but have to be copied where the alterations are extensive. The specifications have to be altered & some rewritten - Almost half my report is written, but in a fragmentary manner as the work of examination has been frequently interrupted by the current work of the Office - As far as I can judge the work of examination, so far as it has gone, may be regarded as representing 7 or 8 hours of work daily for a period of 2 or 2½ months or a money value of from 4 to 5000 Rupees this will be lost if the work is left incomplete

6. The actual work I have to do myself could probably be completed in a fortnight if I could work without interruption but the work to

to be done in the office in copying & will take at least 6 weeks & it would be well that, intimately acquainted with the work as I now am, I should examine the tracings of the Plans the estimates & after they have been copied

7. Lt Colonel Mullins would probably raise no objection to the work required of the office being undertaken by the members of his office establishment but if the aid of an extra writer or draughtsman is required it would be true economy to employ extra hands

8. I may observe that the work in the office of Chief Engineer for Irrigation is now very heavy, the division of the Districts into Circles & the preparation of Capital & Revenue accounts will for some time occupy Lt Colonel Mullins while the Rooshkoolia & Neerinjepett Projects await examination, so it would be well that he should be relieved of work which probably

would

would represent 3 months of uninterrupted work i.e. if he went through all the calculations as I have done.

9. On the completion of the work I purpose to avail myself of two months privilege leave to which I am entitled & if Government do not wish me to undertake the completion of the Project I beg that privilege leave may be granted to me for two months from the date of my being relieved by Lt Colonel Mullins.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant.

[signature] Major R.E.
Acting Chief Engr for Irrigation

P. A. X.

Progs of Govt No 5681 for November

The Actg Chf Engr
for Irrigation

To the Secretary to Govt
P W D

No 273

Dated 16 } Novr 72
Despd 16
Recd 18

No 2805 - 29th Novr 72

Proposes that he be placed on special duty till he has completed the examination of the Periyar Project & submitted his report - Requests 2 months privilege leave -

No 474

C. 22nd Novr 1872

No 2805 P.W.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

Read the following

From,

The Ag Chief Engineer for Irrigation } (K. E. No 278 of 16th Novr 72)

Major Oakes will be considered as employed on Special Duty at Madras while engaged in completing his examination of the Perryaur Project. After which he will be permitted to avail himself of Two months Privilege Leave.

His

WL

HL

L. W. L.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has already marked his appreciation of Major Oakes's services in the Irrigation Department by promoting him to the rank of Superintending Engineer of the 1st grade, at a time when it had been determined, in compliance with the orders of the Government of India, to reduce the number in that grade from Three to Two; and when such promotion consequently involved the payment of a personal allowance to him after the 1st December –

The

13D

The grant of his request for Privilege Leave, — just as the Department has been reorganized, and when his services can ill be spared, will, His Excellency the Governor in Council trusts, be accepted by Major Oakes as an assurance that the Government (have not ceased to place in him the same confidence which they had formerly reposed in him.)

G.W.W.

fully appreciate the good services rendered by him

W.C.

28/13

To Major R. F. Oakes R.E.
Controller &
Chief Engr. for Irrn.

Despd. 2/12/72.

Very urgent

27/11/72

C/No. 5681

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Controller of Public Works Accounts

24.9

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 29th Nov 1872, No. 2805.

Nos. 474 & 475

Major Oakes R.E. Directing

that Major Oakes be considered as on Special duty at Madras while engaged in completing the examination of the Periyaur Project and that he be allowed to avail himself of two months privilege leave after the work and ~~[illegible]~~ appreciating the good ~~[illegible]~~ services rendered by him.